DEVELOPMENT SECRETARIAT.

No. D. 1153—*Agri.* 15-38-4, *dated* 17*th August* 1938.

The following Press Communique No. 213 (2) Tr. (I. E. R.) /38, dated 15th July 1938 of the Government of India in the Department of Commerce regarding the constitution of the Indian Tea Licensing Committee is re-published for general information.

By Order,
M. VENKATANARANAPPA,
Secretary to Government,
Development Department.

PRESS COMMUNIQUE.

Subject :—**Constitution of the Indian Tea Licensing Committee.**

Section 3 (2) of the Indian Tea Control Act, 1938, requires that within three months after the commencement of the Act (which came into force on the 1st April 1938), the Central Government *shall* publish the names of *all* members of the Indian Tea Licensing Committee, and thereupon the Committee shall be deemed to be constituted. The Committee is to consist of 14 members, of whom 10 are to be nominated by bodies mentioned in Section 3 (1) (a), (c) and (d) of the Act, and 4 are to be elected by tea estates mentioned in Section 3 (1) (b), (e) and (f) in accordance with rules to be prescribed for the purpose.

2. As regards the 4 members to be elected, therefore, it became necessary first to obtain the views of the Provincial Governments and through them of the various bodies concerned as to the method of election : then to frame rules : and finally to hold the elections and publish the names of those elected, before the 1st July 1938, by which date the Committee must be completely constituted. This has proved to be impracticable within the limit of time prescribed.

3. The position now is that the Electoral rules are ready in their final form and will shortly be published but the holding of elections under the rules by tea estates or gardens widely distributed in various parts of India will require further time.

4. In these circumstances and in view of the mandatory provisions of Section 3(2) of the Act requiring the publication of names of *all* members of the Committee, the Central Government have, in respect of the 4 members referred to and after consultation with the Provincial Governments concerned, exercised the power of nomination under Section 4(1) of the Act and the names of all members of the Committee were duly notified in a Gazette of India, Extraordinary on the 30th June 1938. Such nominations have, however, been made on condition that members so nominated will resign as soon as elections can be held.